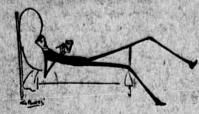
# EORGE ADE AND SLANG BY CHAS. DARNTON.



cold, gray dawn of the morning after "The Bad Samaritan," and Mr. George Ade was resting easily. To use his own words (not yet copyrighted), he had been parachuted-let down easy. A forked

amile played about his Indiana features as he told how the critic iron had entered the soul of his faithful friend and admirer, a moon-faced waiter at the Holland House who lives at his elbow every minute of the time he is in the cafe.

When you call upon a playwright or a star the morning after and fall to find newspapers littering the room in glad profusion-DON'T. Talk about the weather, your neighbors, or the clerk downstairs, but don't, as you hope to lead the conversation into pleasant paths, don't drag last night out of its darkness. It's always the time to omit flowers.

I had had in mind a little chat about—but—but—

"How would a little talk on slang do?" proposed Mr. Ade.

"It would do very well," I agreed, "but once before when I suggested that subject you said you were so sick of slang that you didn't want to.

"Yes, I know; but that slang in the last act seemed to go well last

It did. It went so well that it ought to go almost equally well in print. So here it is, the laconic Spillers handing it out to Uncle Ike:

VERYBODY with the hammer—are you on? I go up to the city, put something across, come back here with a bundle of money that I had to carry in a shawl-strap, and you know what I got."

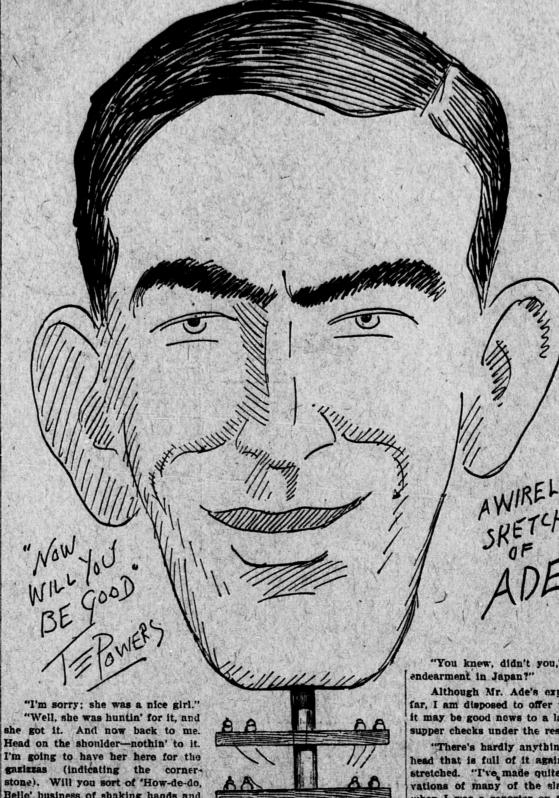
"All the I-Knew-Him-When brothers got together. Ever hear of the I-Knew-Him-When Club? It's immense. All the boys with long Belshazzars get together in front of the Post-Office like this: 'I knew him when he was working for \$6 a week;' 'I knew him when he had two shirts and one pair of galluses.' I've been getting it here ever since I connected with a

"'Gene, you won't know what real unpopularity is until you start to give your money away."

"That re-minds me. Come here! You remember Belle-la-la-la-with the voice, you know—the one that was going to send Schumann-Heink back to Germany? Well, I slipped her a little piece of money to get her back to this town. You know how she used to be-like this (indicating swelled head). Tamest thing you ever saw-eat right out of your hand. What they did to her up in the big town! Wow! You know she finally mang. Oh, real stage, orchestra, flowers in the hair, and the Missouri family out in front."

"All the guys sittin' down on their shoulder-blades sayin' 'Come on, now; show us.' Beile out, steppin' on her own feet, reaches for a high "As bad as that?"

"I've not it here (producing a clipping). Evening paper. This is what Belle' business of shaking hands and handed Little Bright-Eyes. Listen: 'Miss Belle Hinkle, whose gown all that? When I come back with was slightly bunched in the back, came out and did a few things to the fier nobe, nothing about the voice, Jewel Song. Miss Hinkle's voice sounded as if she were standing too close understand?"
to the phone. She hit the key only once, and then fell off backward'—and "Lost it,



meaning a car. Mr. Sullivan probably word you hear to-day has its history." thought he was using the very latest slang, when as a matter of fact he 'rattler,' which was slang for 'car-

TE POWERS

"You knew, didn't you," put in a friend, "that 'lobster' is a term of "them more of the same kind of stuff."

Although Mr. Ade's expert knowledge didn't seem to carry him that far, I am disposed to offer this interrogative information in the hope that cut to telling what you want to say. But there is slang and slang. It can it may be good news to a large class which is ruining its eyesight reading never be coarse and be popular. The best slang is that which finds its way supper checks under the restaurant's red lamp.

"There's hardly anything new in slang," went on Mr. Ade, bumping a race course or the barroom." head that is full of it against the pillows of the bed upon which he was stretched. "I've made quite a study of it, and have tried to find the deriderivation of the term. The most interesting explanation of several was never be furiously jealous of me."

"ONE DAY WHEN I WAS A REPORTER"-LANG is by no means a prod- this one: A crook from the City of Mexico, who had pulled off a job, was uct of the times, as many caught in New Orleans and extradition papers had been taken out, when might imagine," said its past he sent word to his friends to come and save him. There were twenty-"On the contrary, it's as old three of them, and they concocted the plan of surrounding the balliffs when as the hills. I was reminded of this they brought out their man. At the signal "Twenty-three!" they were to the other day by reading in one of grab their pal and then all run in different directions. According to the the papers that Tim Sullivan, on his beautiful legend the plan worked, hence the word that has come skidoo-lag arrival from Europe, said, when in- down the ages. Another story they tell is that in the old racing days in vited to step into a cab at the pier, England twenty-three horses were entered in a race, and 'Twenty-'No thank you; I'll take . rattler,' three' was the word for the get-away. And so it goes. Nearly every slang

had brought an infirm old-timer through the customs. That word he happened to begin writing slang. "'Artie' was to blame. 'Artie,' he happened to begin writing slang. "'Artie' was to blame. 'Artie,' you may remember, was an office boy. It occurred to me to send riage' then, is in an English book of him to a church social and let him tell about it in his own way. Well, slang published in 1820. I also found people seemed to like it, judging from the letters I got. So I decided to give

"And you believe-you must after last night-that people still like

"Yes, a certain kind of slang. It's picturesque, ezsy, and it's a short into the family circle. There's another kind that never sets beyond the

"Will you keep on writing slang?"

"I may be compelled to. I have tried to get away from it more than vations of many of the slang words that are in common use. One day once, but my awful past has always caught up with me and dragged me when I was a reporter on the Record I heard a porter in a hotel call out tack I was determined there should not be a line of slang in 'The Sultan 'Twenty-three!' to a tramp who was shuffling in to make a touch. The of Sulu.' 'It will be Gilbertian,' said I to myself.'—Mr. Ade smiled at himhobo kept right on going. That was a new one on me, and I wondered self—"but my lovely fdea didn't live through the first rehearsal. Some one what the magical word could mean. When I asked the porter, he informed suggested a line of slang here, another just a word or two there. The deme that it meant 'Get out.' I went to a great deal of pains to find the mand grew with every rehearsal, until I felt quite certain Mr. Gilbert would

## "Zira" and a Burlesque on "The Music Master" Next Week

will remain at the Princess until spring.

During this time the Messrs. Shubert.

Not until Thursday sight of next week will there be any fresh the stricted food for hungry first mighters. Then Margaret Anglin will be seen in "Zira" at the Princess, and en the same evening Lew Felds will put on a burlesque of "The Music Courts as a co-respondent by the real Master" at his theatre, on Wednesday evening the direction at the Grand Theatre. Then Margaret Anglin will be seen in "Adrea" at Belasco's Theorem in the Adrea and the Ad

"Custer's Last Fight" will bring Indians, cowboys, horses, dogs and wolves to the Thalla Theatre. Will Rogers, the cowboy lasso expert, will be an extra attraction with the Blue Ribbon Girls at the Circle.

"The Runaway Gdris" will be at the Gctham, and the "Devil's Daughter" La Rue and the Company at the Dewey.

"Mary versus John" will continue at the Manhattan another week, and will be followed by Mrs. Fiske and the Man-

his elephants, the Empire City Quartette and Carmencita. At the Fifty-eighth Street Theatre will be the Ellmore Sisters, Sheehan and Warren in "Quo Vadis Upside Down." Burle and La Rue and their Inky Boys, Edward F. Raynard, ventriloquist; Collins' Congress of Rough Riders and others. The stock company at the One Hundred and Tweatre.

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## May Manton's

HE square yoke nightgown is a well-deserved favorite and always in demand. It means smoothness over the thins that rumples certain to be uncon fortable, at the sar time that there